



# Mountain Snow and Gusty Winds

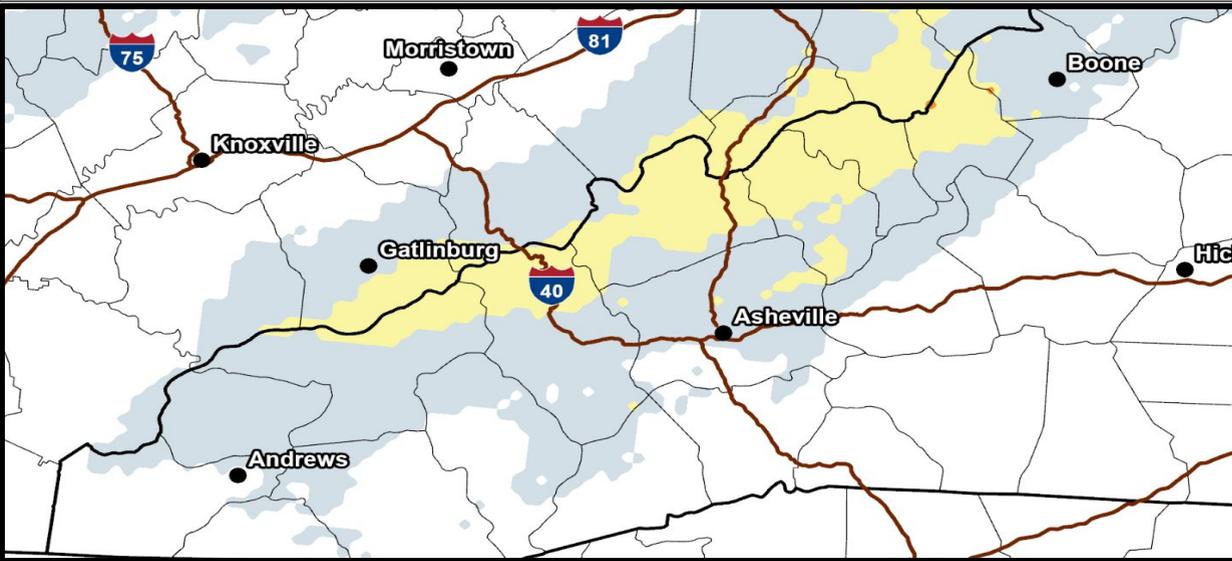
February 21, 2026  
1:24 AM

For the North Carolina Mountains

## OVERVIEW

- Very gusty northwest winds Sunday into Monday.
- Accumulating snow for portions of the mountains, especially along the immediate Tennessee border.

## Potential Winter Storm Impact Level



Potential Winter Storm Impacts		Winter Storm Severity Index (WSSI)			
Winter Weather Area		Minor Impacts	Moderate Impacts	Major Impacts	Extreme Impacts
Expect winter weather. • Winter driving conditions. Drive carefully.		Expect a few inconveniences to daily life. • Winter driving conditions. Use Caution while driving.	Expect disruptions to daily life. • Hazardous driving conditions. Use extra caution while driving. • Closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.	Expect considerable disruptions to daily life. Dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Avoid travel if possible. Widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur.	Expect substantial disruptions to daily life. Extremely dangerous or impossible driving conditions. Travel is not advised. Extensive and widespread closures and disruptions to infrastructure may occur. Life-saving actions may be needed.

### TIMING

- Sunday into Monday

### HAZARDS & IMPACTS

- Strong gusts of **up to 60 mph**, with locally higher gusts at the highest peaks and along the eastern slopes of the Blue Ridge.
- Wind chills in the single digits expected with strong winds for the mountains Sunday night.
- Accumulating snow for the mountains and especially areas along the TN/NC border:
  - Lower Elevations: **1-3"**
  - Higher Elevations Above 3500 feet, along the Tennessee border: **3-6"+**

### FORECAST CHALLENGES

- Need to determine the exact zones that will likely need a **Wind Advisory**.
- Where the storm system tracks will have a direct impact on how much snow actually falls. If it tracks further east, less snow would fall.

### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- NWS Alerts likely to be issued later today.
- Rapidly reduced visibility caused by blowing snow will make travel conditions dangerous.
- High winds will potentially cause isolated to scattered power outages.

### POST-EVENT OUTLOOK

- Colder temperatures Monday and frigid wind chills in the single digits for the mountains expected Monday night. Temperatures return to near normal by Wednesday.

### NEXT BRIEFING

- 5 PM EST Saturday, February 21st, 2026.





# Snow Totals For NC Mountains

February 21, 2026

1:24 AM

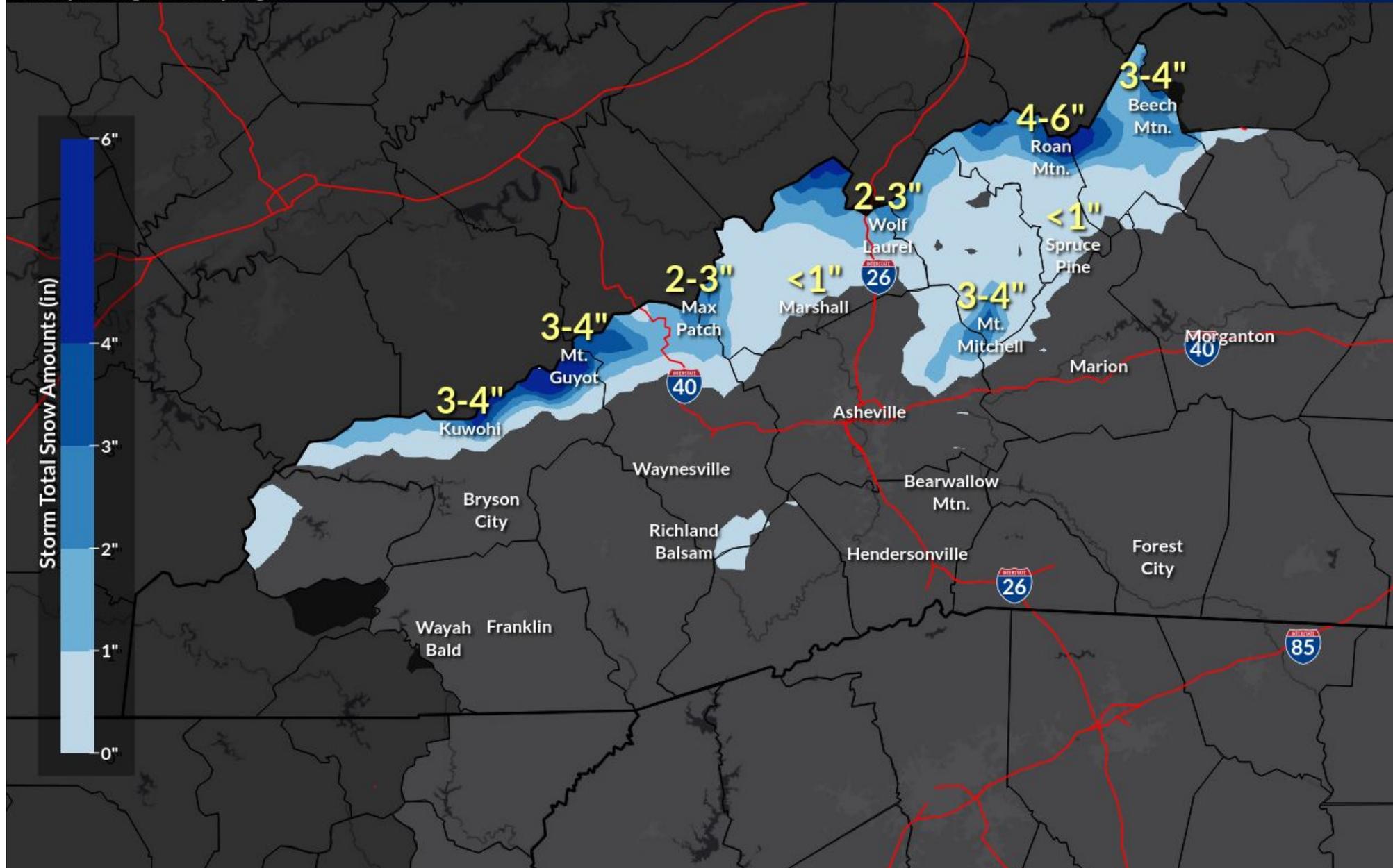
Sunday through Monday

## Key Messages:

- **Timing Onset: Midnight-5 AM Sunday**
- Snow totals have trended slightly lower with 1-3 inches possible and isolated higher amounts of up to 6 inches at elevations above 3500 feet.
- A few flurries could be possible outside the TN/NC border, but no accumulations are expected at this time.

## Mountain Snow Totals

Sunday through Monday Night





# Peak Wind Gusts

Sunday through Monday Night

February 21, 2026

1:24 AM

## Key Messages:

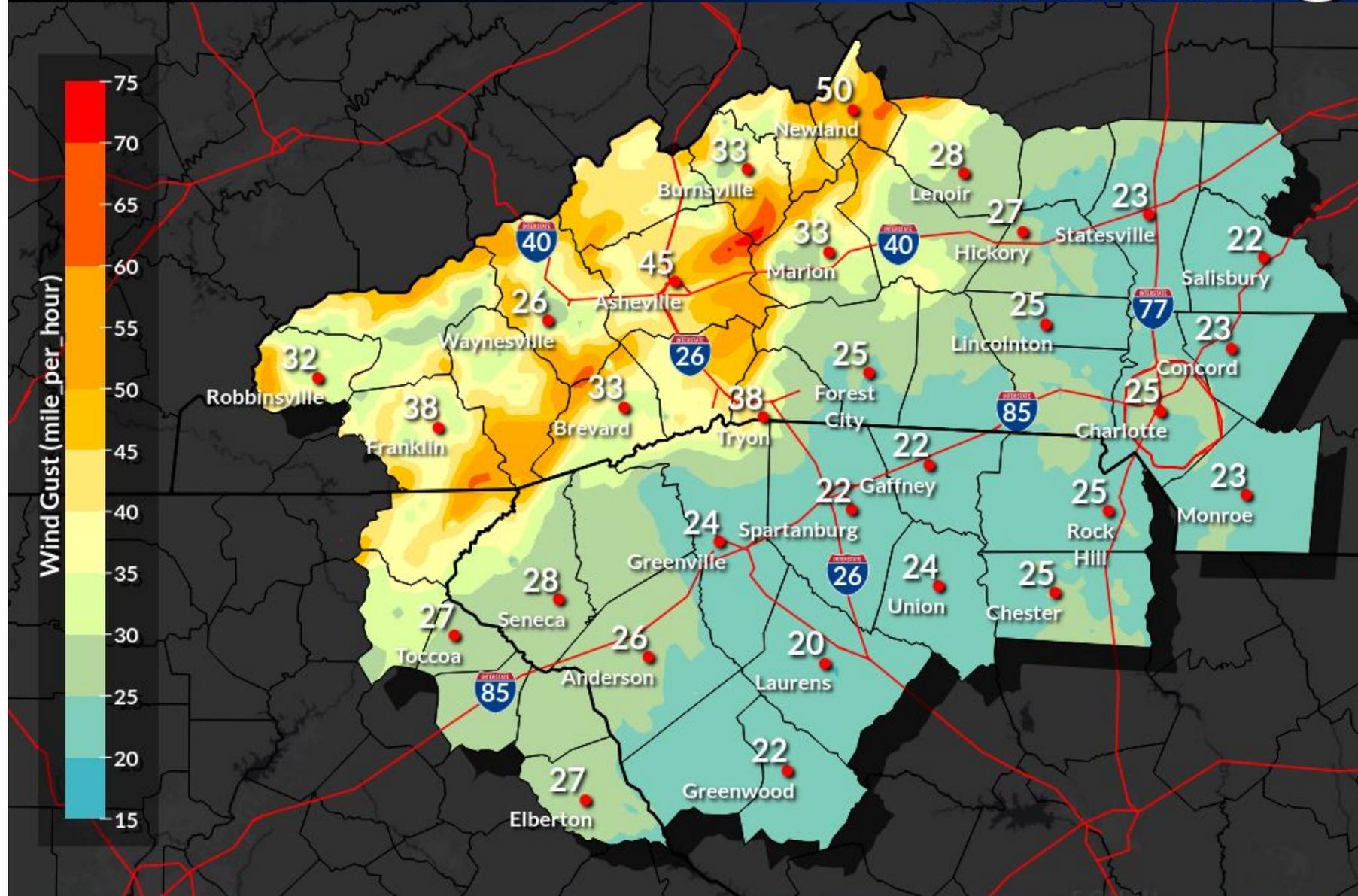
- **Timing:** Gusts pick up early Sunday morning and peak Sunday night. Winds should start to diminish Monday night.
- **Mountains:** gusts of 30-45 mph below 3500 feet and higher gusts up to 60 mph likely for locations above 3500 feet.
- **Elsewhere:** gusts of 20-30 mph expected.

## Peak Wind Gusts

Sunday into Sunday Night

Weather Forecast Office  
Greenville-Spartanburg

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